

# Chicopee Register

## Vieau asks for patience as city awaits more vaccines

*The mayor also urged residents to continue wearing masks after inoculation*

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – The COVID-19 vaccine rollout has been slower than anticipated, and Chicopee is among dozens of municipalities scrambling for answers as residents grow

anxious for inoculations. “Please be patient,” said Chicopee Mayor John Vieau during his Feb. 2 briefing. “As much as they’re building capacity around the Commonwealth, those doses are just not coming. As of my last recollection, there were 86,000 doses per week. We’re trying to fight for our share. That’s per week in the whole state.” On Tuesday evening, Vieau reported that Chicopee has 473 active cases of

COVID-19. As of his briefing, 2,474 residents in Chicopee have recovered and 23 have been killed by the novel coronavirus since the onset of the pandemic. “God rest their souls,” said Vieau. Vaccines may be sparse, but COVID-19 testing in the city of Chicopee is readily available. The municipal test site operates each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. until noon at the upper level of the senior center, located at 5 W. Main St.

As Winter Storm Orlena dumped nearly a foot of snow on the city Monday and Tuesday, the site remained operational. Vieau commended the dedication of the city employees who man the site, which he believes is making a difference. “In my opinion, there’s not a better way to stop the spread of COVID-19 than identify-

See **VACCINES** page 5

## Council approves second phase of City Hall rehabilitation design

*The building will be ADA-compliant upon the project’s completion*

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee City Council is moving forward with the second phase of the City Hall Rehabilitation Project after discussion about the design picked up during a special meeting on Jan. 28. With the council’s blessing, the Planning Department will seek a firm to design Phase II. The design is expected to cost approximately \$1.4 million and be completed in 16 months. While Phase I of the project focused primarily on the building’s exterior, Phase II will take place within its walls.

“Phase II is anticipated to really focus on the inside of the building,” said City Planner Lee Pouliot, adding that the project will address security concerns, lighting, flooring, carpeting and window treatment. As part of Phase II, City Hall, a historic structure built in 1871, will be made ADA compliant. It will also examine the use of office space. “One thing every department head has mentioned to me heading into Phase II is file storage. It’s a significant issue for most of us, not having enough space,” said Pouliot. Another crown jewel of the rehabilitation project will be the City Hall Auditorium, which will reopen next month for the first time in decades. The auditorium will host the March 2 meeting of City Council. “We all look forward to this auditorium. We’re all anticipating it being brought back to its former glory,” said Mayor John Vieau. Phase I of the project is



TURLEY PUBLICATION PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

Mayor John Vieau has declared the ramp outside of the City Hall Annex building to be outdated; residents can expect to see a lift added to the site to make building access easier for individuals with disabilities.

on pace to be completed by early April. Under the first phase, building features such as windows, rooms, masonry, falling mortar, chemical systems and HVAC were restored or updated. The building’s bathrooms and ventilation systems have also been redone, as part of Phase I, which began in 2019. To date, Chicopee has spent \$14.2 million on the rehabilitation project, Pouliot said. Given the progress that has already occurred, Councilor-at-Large James Tillitson advocated for the completion of the second phase. “I think we should move forward with Phase II,” Tillitson said. “I would be embarrassed to have things that look lousy that could be [fixed] for



Mayor John Vieau has declared the ramp outside of the City Hall Annex building to be outdated; residents can expect to see a lift added to the site to make building access easier for individuals with disabilities.

See **CITY HALL** page 5

## Influencer supports local businesses, political engagement

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Kaween Fernando is one of the most polarizing public figures in Chicopee. Host of the Facebook program “Last Week in Chicopee,” Fernando has become a presence throughout the city as he encourages his following to support local businesses and engage more closely in the political process. Fernando began the venture in 2019 after his bid to be elected Ward 3 City Councilor fell short, and hasn’t indicated any intent to run for office again.

Over the past year, the social media influencer has made efforts to visit a variety of local establishments and report back to his nearly 2,000 followers. “During the pandemic, a lot of restaurants are having a tough time,” Fernando said. “I’ve been focusing a lot on local restaurants. I do two or three videos a week just going through restaurants, ordering something, eating the food, doing a review, telling people how COVID-friendly the restaurant is and telling people how good the service was.” Fernando posts a video on “Wing Wednesday” and “Fish Friday” each week, after visiting different local restaurants. Fernando compared his content to “Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives,” a program on the Food Network. While Fernando enjoys ordering food from restaurants all over the city, his politically-themed Facebook videos have attracted widespread attention, both positive and neg-

See **INFLUENCER** page 6



### IN THE CITY City parking lot hits speed bump

See Page 2

### IN THE CITY CHS announces January Students of the Month

See Page 3



### SPORTS Buzzer-beater lifts Comp to win

See Page 7



### AROUND THE REGION Soldiers’ Home saw “complete collapse” amid outbreak

See Page 12

### INDEX

Opinion	4
Seniors	6
Public Notices	9
Classifieds	10
Faces and Places	11



# Parking lot consolidation hits speed bump with shallow groundwater discovery

*A new design for the stormwater system is nearly complete*

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – The ongoing parking lot consolidation behind the City Hall Annex building on Front Street hit a speed bump recently after excavators discovered groundwater that interfered with the previously designed stormwater system.

“Our contractor got going at the beginning of December when we had good weather,” said City Planner Lee Pouliot during a special meeting of the city council on Jan. 28. “They started excavating to install the stormwater system for that area and hit ground water at four feet instead of nine feet, which was a problem for the system that we had designed.”

While the project has been slowed, the perched water table could have been



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

The unexpected discovery of groundwater has led to significant delays in the project to create a revamped parking lot outside of the City Hall Annex building on Front Street.

much more costly.

“It was a blessing that we found it.

It would have comprised the whole drainage system under Front Street and it could have been a real problem,” said Mayor John Vieau. “The Engineering Department here in the city of Chicopee said, thankfully, it was discovered before the installation. As much as it’s been an inconvenience, we’re lucky that we were able to find it before we built it.”

In response to the groundwater discovery, engineers have been forced to redesign the stormwater system. The new design is nearing approval, as City Engineer Douglas Ellis and Department of Public Works Superintendent Elizabette Botelho work out details pertaining to the cost of sewer and storm water connections that come out at an alley way near the site.

Over the past several years, the city purchased multiple independent lots behind the annex building and demolished a structure to make way for a large-scale lot that will provide easier access to City Hall and Chicopee Center.

Thirteen handicap parking spaces will be lo-

cated along the back wall of the annex.

Two spots will be designated for veterans.

“We’ve gone above and beyond with handicap parking,” said Pouliot. “We’re putting in more than what the [state’s] formula requires knowing that we have some staff that need handicap space in addition to the public that would need that as well.”

The portion of the lot located furthest from the annex must be made publicly accessible in its entirety, as is mandated by a Community Development Block Grant that had paved the site in the past.

It’s Vieau’s hope that the extended handicap ramp located on the Front Street entrance of the annex building will be put out of use in the near future, and he urged the city to pursue installation of a ramp.

“That is an out-of-date piece of infrastructure,” said Vieau, referring to the ramp. “We would have our design team look at replacing that with a lift similar to the lift that’s being installed in the auditorium that would bring you from the main floor to the mezzanine near the rose window.”

Under Phase II of the City Hall Rehabilitation Project, Pouliot expects to replace the awning located above the annex building’s Front Street entrance with an, “awning that is more historically appropriate for the building.”

As for residents who make a habit of parking their vehicles behind the annex buildings for extended periods of time, Pouliot said he’s had enough. Noting that he recently observed a vehicle with two flat tires sit in the lot for more than a week, Pouliot is seeking the assistance of law enforcement.



At least 13 handicap parking spaces will be featured in the parking lot that will open behind the City Hall Annex building. The handicap spaces will be placed along the back of the building.



Heavy snowfall has been one of the many obstacles delaying the completion of the parking lot outside of the City Hall Annex building.

“The same thing happens in the Springfield Street public parking lot as well,” Pouliot said. “It’s an enforcement issue. We really need to get the police to start enforcing the parking ordinances for those parking lots. A number of those cars should be ticketed and probably towed,” he said, adding that the city posted proper signage forbidding extended parking in both lots.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

**OPEN**  
**FOR BUSINESS**

## ◆ La Cucina di Hampden House

1 Allen Street, Hampden, MA

413-566-8324

[www.lacucinahampden.com](http://www.lacucinahampden.com)

CURRENT HOURS: Mon-Thurs 3-8pm;

Sat 2-9pm; Sun 2-8pm

Lounge open & pizza available 7 days

## ◆ Route 20 Bar & Grille

2341 Boston Road (The Wilbraham Shops)  
Wilbraham, MA

413-279-2020

[www.route20barandgrille.com](http://www.route20barandgrille.com)

CURRENT HOURS: Lunch: Thurs-Sat starting at

11:30am; Dinner: Tues-Thurs 4-9pm;

Fri & Sat 4-10pm; Sunday 11:30am-7:00pm;

Sunday Brunch 11:30am-2:30pm

## ◆ Donovan's Irish Pub

Eastfield Mall, 1655 Boston Road, Springfield, MA

413-543-0791

[www.donovanspub.com](http://www.donovanspub.com)

CURRENT HOURS: Thurs-Sat 11am-9pm;

Sun 9am-7pm; Sunday breakfast 9am - noon

## ◆ Venice Pizza & Grill

2341 Boston Road, The Wilbraham Shops  
Wilbraham, MA

413-540-8080

[www.venicepizzagrill.com](http://www.venicepizzagrill.com)

OPEN: Tues-Thurs 10:45am-9:30pm

Fri & Sat 10:45am -10pm; Sun 11am-9pm

Closed Monday

**AFFORDABLE DENTISTRY IS HERE!**  
• Preventative & Restorative Care • Cosmetic & Implant Dentistry  
• State of the Art Laser Dentistry  
**HOLYOKE DENTAL ASSOCIATES**  
610 South Street, Holyoke, MA (Convenient to 91 and 391)  
**Call for Appointment Mon.-Fri.**  
**413-533-8378**  
[www.holyokedentalassociates.com](http://www.holyokedentalassociates.com)  
• Badri Z. Deblan D.M.D. • John P. Griffin, D.D.S.  
• Louis A. Rigali D.D.S. • Robert J. Liptak D.M.D.  
• Cara M. Seidel, D.M.D.  
Care Credit Financing Available and  
Most Credit Cards and Dental Plans Accepted

**Idies from The Estate**  
**WE BUY & SELL**  
**ALL TYPES OF STUFF**  
**FROM A TO Z.**  
Call Bill or Beth  
45 Parker Street, Indian Orchard  
**543-6065**

**Tell Us What You Think**

Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!

**Chicopee Register**  
*Your Community Newspaper*

[www.chicopeeregister.turley.com](http://www.chicopeeregister.turley.com)  
tyler@turley.com • 413.283.8393



# Feb. 4 celebrated Irene Stadnicki Day in Chicopee

CHICOPEE – Chicopee Mayor John L. Veiau named Feb. 4 “Irene Stadnicki Day,” commemorating the birthday of the 99-year-old Chicopee resident.

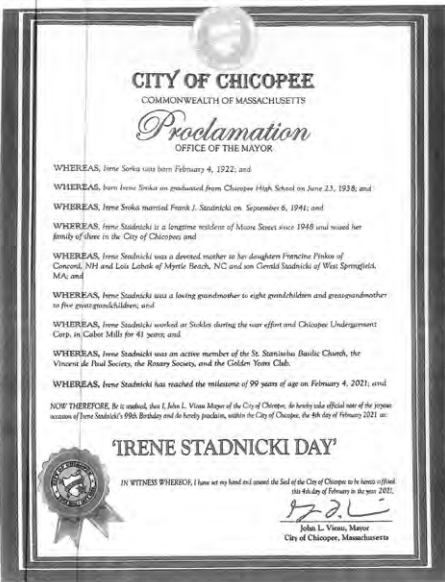
Irene Sroka was born Feb. 4, 1922. She graduated from Chicopee high school class of 1938 and lived on Orchard Stand and Fairview Ave. as a school girl.

She married frank J. Stadnicki on Sept. 6, 1941. Stadnicki is the mother of Francine Pinkos of Concord, N.H., Lois Labak of Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Gerald Stadnicki of West Springfield.

Stadnicki is the grandmother of eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She worked at Sickles during the war efforts and Chicopee undergarment in Cabot Mills for 41 years. Stadnicki is an active member of St. Vincent DePaul society, rosary society and the Golden Years club.

Stadnicki and her husband were



long-time residents of 210 Moore St. in Chicopee. Irene now lives at Chicopee Rehabilitation and nursing center.

# ART-ventures for Kids: February vacation art fun

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Parks & Recreation in conjunction with ART-ventures for Kids is offering in-person classes during school vacation.

There are two classes being offered for children, grades K -5: Watercolor Places and Pencil Cases on Thursday, Feb. 18; and Silly Cities and Wiggly Waves on Friday, Feb. 19.

The classes will be held at the parks and recreation office from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Masks will be worn at all times. The fee per day is \$40 for residents amd \$45 for non-residents.

Spaces is limited; those interested can sign up for one or both classes. For more information or to register online, go to [www.ARTventuresforkids.com](http://www.ARTventuresforkids.com)

# RiverMills Center launches tablet lending program

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging has launched a tablet lending program for Chicopee seniors ages 55 and older who have internet access, but do not have an updated device to get on the internet successfully.

These tablets can be used to get on-line, play games, or join Zoom program-

ming. This program will allow seniors to sign out a device for up to three weeks at a time. The tablets will also have charging and typing accessories, as well as a basic user guide.

Anyone interested in borrowing a tablet can contact Program Technician Jona Ruiz at (413) 534-3698 ext.104.

# RiverMills Center transportation services for seniors


CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging’s Transportation Department is doing emergency rides to supermarkets, pharmacies and doctor’s appointment during COVID-19, for Chicopee seniors 60 and older.

Transportation service is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m., for Chicopee’s older adults.

For reservations, please call (413) 536-5733.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chicopee COA follows all CDC Safety Standards and adheres to all mandates from the City and State of Massachusetts.

A \$10,000 grant from WestMass ElderCare has allowed the senior center to expand its transportation offerings.



**haluchsmemorials.com**

**Cemetery Memorials ♦ Markers**  
**Granite Benches**  
**Religious Statuary ♦ Outdoor Display**

— RAY HALUCH INC. —  
1014 Center St ■ Ludlow, MA ■ 583-6508

Siubmissioins always accepted.  
Send your stories and photos to [elinsett@turley.com](mailto:elinsett@turley.com)

# Chicopee High School: Selected students for the month of January

CHICOPEE – Chicopee High School Student of the Month award aims to recognize students for their outstanding contributions to the CHS community. Whether it be due to academics, extracurricular activities, or upstanding character, these young people stand out for their accomplishments and commitment to excellence. On behalf of the administration and staff, it is with great honor and Pacer pride that we present the selected students for the month of January.

**Lillian Skawski, 9th grade**  
Lillian is a dependable, hard working, kind, resilient, and intelligent young woman. Teachers can always count on her to stay focused and participate by asking and responding to questions. Lillian also enjoys drawing, and is just wonderful all around.

**Shaikhah Abdullah, 10th grade**  
Shaikhah is a dedicated, hard-working, studious young lady. She

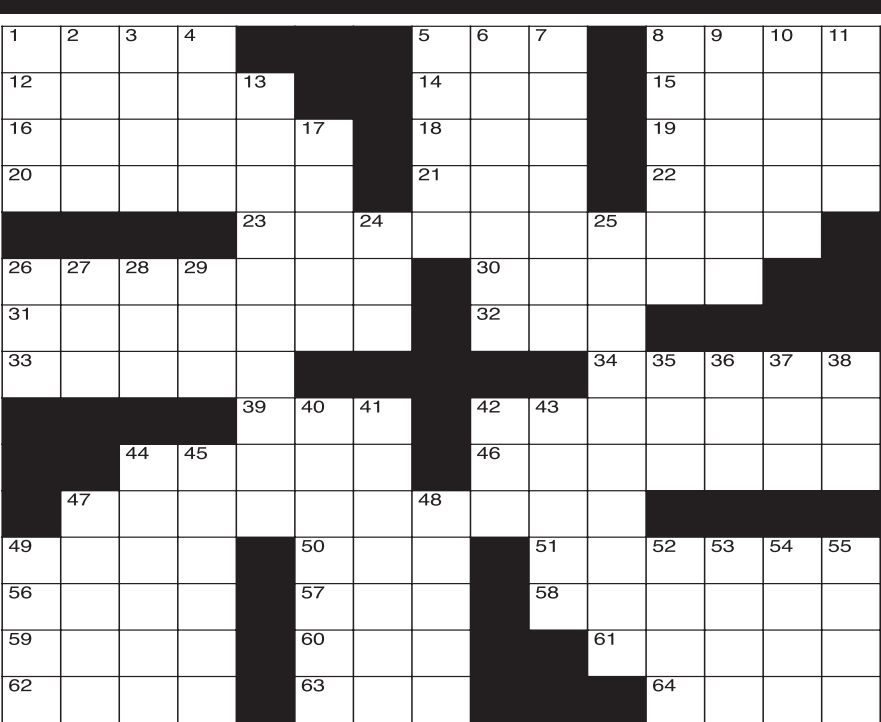
is an active member in all the online classes and always tries her best. She is not afraid to pronounce words in Spanish and always wants to participate. She is helpful during class to her classmates and to me.

**Samantha Robak, 11th grade**  
Samantha, besides being an excellent student, contributes to the CHS community through her “Buddy Spotlight.” She came up with this idea and ran with it. Each month she interviews someone with a disability at CHS so others can see that, regardless of their disability, they are just like them.

**Daimian Ocasio, 12th grade**  
Daimian is a polite, hardworking, motivated student. He is an active participant during the online classes and attends class everyday. He is an example for other students in class as he always tries his best. He loves to play basketball and serves as a strong role model to younger basketball players.

# Chicopee resident appointed assistant store director at Big Y in Simsbury

SPRINGFIELD – The management of Big Y Foods, Inc. announced on Feb. 3 that Chicopee resident Otilia Brown has been appointed assistant store director at Big Y World Class Market in Simsbury, Conn.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Nuclear near reach weapon
- 5. Of she
- 8. Hyperbolic function
- 12. Rice dish
- 14. A team’s best pitcher
- 15. Strong and healthy
- 16. Induces
- 18. Popular manga series
- 19. From a distance
- 20. Split
- 21. Consumed
- 22. Cushions
- 23. All over
- 26. One who provides food
- 30. St. \_\_\_ Girl, brand of beer
- 31. Walking slowly
- 32. Wood
- 33. Semitic gods
- 34. Bugle

39. 60-minute periods (abbr.)

- 42. Congressman
- 44. Plant of the heath family
- 46. Subdivision of an army
- 47. Having many different forms
- 49. Shellfish
- 50. Latin for hail
- 51. Between sixth and seventh
- 56. Maori war dance
- 57. Precious or semiprecious stone
- 58. Teeter totter
- 59. Deity
- 60. A major division of geological time
- 61. Fishing net
- 62. Small Caribbean bird
- 63. Field force unit
- 64. Japanese beverage

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Prevents oil spills
- 2. Monetary unit
- 3. The color of the sky
- 4. Dough used to make tortillas
- 5. Popular comic strip character
- 6. Distinct form of a plant
- 7. Replenishment
- 8. Has its own altar
- 9. Expedition to see animals
- 10. Group of related organisms
- 11. His and \_\_\_
- 13. Frenetically
- 17. Small integer
- 24. Unit of energy
- 25. Studies of culture
- 26. Taxi
- 27. Doctors’ group
- 28. Don’t know when yet

- 29. Former measure of length
- 35. Popular CBS series
- 36. Skin condition
- 37. Christian creator and ruler of the universe
- 38. They \_\_\_
- 40. Caused severe damage
- 41. Work done under harsh conditions for no pay
- 42. One point east of due south
- 43. Sea eagles
- 44. Drenched
- 45. State capital
- 47. Italian city
- 48. Sweetheart (archaic)
- 49. Brief talk
- 52. Popular disco group: Bee \_\_\_
- 53. First Chinese dynasty
- 54. Military vehicle
- 55. Chinese Moslem

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11



## EDITORIAL

### Western Mass. needs more COVID vaccine sites

Phase II of the Massachusetts COVID-19 vaccination program rolled out Monday. The bleak weather that ushered in the new week turned out to be an apt metaphor for the plan so far, especially if you reside in Western Mass.

Due to a lack of supply of the vaccine and high demand by residents waiting to be inoculated, prioritizing which residents are first in line makes sense. Healthcare workers, first-responders, and other categories of people facing the highest risk were designated for the first phase. The second phase prioritizes those age 75 and older, followed by seniors age 65 and up, people with certain underlying conditions, then other front-line workers, such as grocery store staff and teachers. Everyone else is expected to become eligible in April, assuming enough vaccine doses are available.

That part of the plan is sound. We'll even say it's fair because the most vulnerable among us and those doing essential work who can't do their jobs while quarantining should be protected first while waiting for vaccine production to catch up with demand.

What's lacking is a plan for mass inoculation sites in Western Mass. If you take a look at the distribution site map on mass.gov, you'll see a lone red star, which represents a mass site, in our entire region. Most of what you'll see are green stars signifying local health care providers and blue stars that are effectively wishful thinking because those are for pharmacies and right now, none of our local chains are offering shots.

Hampden County alone has over 466,000 residents, yet Eastfield Mall in Springfield is the one mass vaccination site. Glance over toward Boston on the distribution map and there's a solid wall of red stars, most notably Fenway Park and Gillette Stadium.

How ironic that the part of the Commonwealth with the most open space hasn't been leveraged to create pop-up vaccination clinics. Yes, you could practically fit all of Chicopee into Fenway while filling Gillette with the combined populations of Pittsfield and Ludlow, but what we lack in sheer numbers we make up for with resources.

Fred Ferguson, owner of Palmer Motorsports Park, said he'd gladly open his facility for use as an inoculation site if asked. Brimfield has acres of fields where flea markets are held in-season that could be temporarily repurposed. Not to mention farms just about everywhere that could be suitable.

There's a long list of possibilities if the COVID-19 Task Force would only consider expanding access in our region. And it should.

Another improvement we'd like to see is the sign-up process. The online portal set up to request a shot opened to poor reviews, especially from the senior citizen segment, who found it less than user-friendly. Despite Gov. Charlie Baker's exasperated retort that it couldn't possibly be any easier, the fact is too many seniors couldn't navigate it.

In response, state senators Eric Lesser and Anne Gobi led a bipartisan effort to prod the Taskforce into setting up a special 1-800 call center to book appointments. Baker seemed agreeable and hopefully by next week if not sooner, that centralized system will be up and running. Time is of the essence when working to end a pandemic and the more those eligible in this phase are encouraged to sign up for the vaccine, the better off we'll all be.

Primarily though, the task force needs a plan to create more mass sites in our region. Those eligible now deserve more options for getting their initial shot and eventual booster. And hopefully, by phase III, everyone still waiting to be inoculated can do that quickly and without having too travel far.

Just because we're rural, doesn't mean we want to be more vulnerable to COVID-19 than our fellow citizens to the east.

## GUEST COLUMN

### How to grow nutritious sweet potatoes

The sweet potato is a nutritional powerhouse. According to [www.nutritiondata.com](http://www.nutritiondata.com), it is "low in sodium, and very low in saturated fat and cholesterol. It is also a good source of dietary fiber, vitamin B6 and potassium, and a very good source of vitamin A, vitamin C and manganese." If these facts aren't reason enough to try adding this veggie to our garden this growing season, delight in the fact that it is also a very pretty vine.

If my memory is correct, my Mom attempted to grow sweet potatoes one summer when I was child. It wasn't all that impressive as I recall, at least not as impressive as her peanut growing experiment! Anyhow, the one thing we have against us is that sweet potatoes require a long growing season, somewhere between 90-150 days. The tender shoots are cold sensitive, and must be planted into the ground after all danger of frost has passed. In our area we use Memorial Day as our "frost-free date." Then, the edible root, aka the sweet potato, must be harvested before the first frost of fall. By my records, the first frost usually occurs in early October. This equates to 100 days bare minimum of growing time. Still interested, read on.

You can purchase plants through the mail or try sprouting your own from sweet potatoes purchased from the grocery store. Dick Raymond, author of my favorite gardening book of all time, "Garden Way's Joy of Gardening" (Storey Publishing \$24.95), has some great tips for doing this: Seven or eight weeks prior to Memorial Day, simply cut the spuds in half length-wise and lay them down in moist peat moss in a shallow tray. Cover with plastic wrap and place in a sunny window until sprouting occurs. Slips should

#### IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid  
Columnist

be separated and planted about six inches deep, 12 to 15 inches apart from one another. He advises to water well for the first two weeks; after that sweet potato plants are reportedly somewhat drought tolerant. When fertilizing, choose a formulation that is a bit lower in nitrogen, otherwise you will have lots of vines at the expense of sweet potatoes.

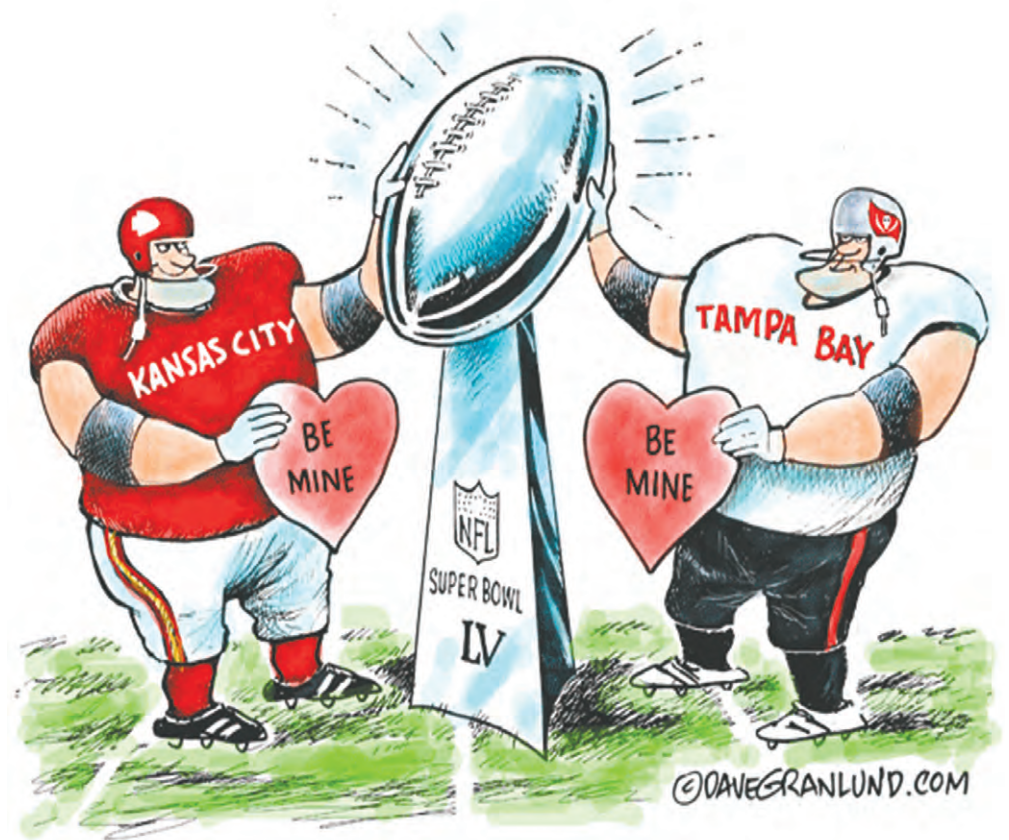
Dig up your bounty on a dry day, being extra careful not to damage the skin. Don't

leave them exposed to the sun for more than an hour and don't wash them either. Picky, aren't they? Fresh sweet potatoes aren't all that sweet, a curing period of two weeks in the dark at 70 to 80 degrees and at high humidity will bring out the great flavor we are accustomed to. Long-term storage should be at temperatures around 60 degrees.

To make sweet potato fries simply cut the root into thick wedges, then toss them with seasoned olive oil (or a favorite salad dressing). Bake on a cookie sheet at 350 degrees for one hour, flipping occasionally. Some ketchup as a dip may help reluctant kids to give the "funny orange French fries" a try.

It's my hope that you all enjoy growing sweet potatoes from "scratch," so to speak!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



### Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, per-

sonal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Send letters to: *The Chicopee Register*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com).

The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

## WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

*The Chicopee Register* welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com) or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

## Chicopee Register

The *Chicopee Register* is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

**PATRICK H. TURLEY**  
CEO

**KEITH TURLEY**  
President

**EDITOR**  
Elise Linscott  
[chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com)

**STAFF WRITER**  
Dalton Zbierski  
[dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com)

**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Wendy Delcamp  
[wdelcamp@turley.com](mailto:wdelcamp@turley.com)

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Greg Scibelli  
[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA**



@ Chicopee Register

**WEB**  
[www.chicopeeregister.turley.com](http://www.chicopeeregister.turley.com)

**Turley**  
Publications, Inc.  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

**3 EASY WAYS TO REACH US**

### FOR ADVERTISING

413.283.8393  
Fax: 413.283.7107  
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

#### EMAIL

*Advertising Sales*  
Wendy Delcamp  
[wdelcamp@turley.com](mailto:wdelcamp@turley.com)

*Editor*  
Elise Linscott  
[chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com)

**WEB**  
[www.chicopeeregister.turley.com](http://www.chicopeeregister.turley.com)

@ Chicopee Register

The *Chicopee Register* is published by Turley Publications, Inc. • [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)



Child and babysitting safety class

CHICOPEE – The Parks Department is offering a child and babysitting safety class for youth, ages 11-15 years old. The class will be held at the Chicopee Parks office 687 Front St. on Wednesday, Feb. 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Masks will be worn at all times. The cost is \$80 for residents and \$85 for non-residents. The class will cover topics such as playtime, behavior management, phone skills, common dos and don'ts, bathing, feeding, changing diapers and fire safety. Class space is limited. To register, go to [www.chicopeerec.com](http://www.chicopeerec.com)

Endicott College announces Chicopee dean's list student

BEVERLY, Mass. – Endicott College, the first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students, is pleased to announce its Fall 2020 Dean's List students. In order to qualify for the Dean's List, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below "C,"

have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester. The following Chicopee student has met these requirements: Sloan Friedhaber, Communication. Parents are Shalene Friedhaber and Todd Friedhaber.

VACCINES from page 1

ing those who have it. They're ordered to quarantine, and that's how you get them out of the general public and keep others safe," said Vieau. Pertaining to the percentage of positive COVID-19 tests, Chicopee remains in the red category, the state's most severe designation, although case numbers have slowly been trending downward. "I can say, as a small sample, [at] our test site on Wednesday, the positivity rate was probably at the lowest we've seen at 7.5%, which is just showing you that we're trending in the right direction as vaccines become available," said Vieau. Chicopee's Vaccine Task Force is keeping busy as it works to create a municipal vaccination site. The lower level of the senior center is being considered to host inoculations and the city will soon submit an application to the state's Department of Public Health. "We hope that there's capacity to do close to just under 50 people every half hour. Our intent is to build capacity as dosage becomes available," Vieau said. Residents can reserve an appointment for an inoculation by logging onto [mass.gov/vaccine](http://mass.gov/vaccine), Vieau said. He added that both his office and the council on aging are happy to assist in the process. Before leaving the podium, Vieau shot down a rumor about face masks that left him visibly frustrated. "There's an inclination out there that once you receive a vaccine that you can now not wear a mask. That's just simply not true," Vieau said, adding that it will take approximately four weeks after the second dose to build up immunity to the virus. Even after being vaccinated, Vieau noted that one can still catch COVID-19. For that reason, regardless of circumstances, Vieau requested that all residents continue to follow safety guidelines. "It's not what everyone wants to hear, but this virus is still here, and as we continue to build herd immunity, we have to be patient and vigilant," said Vieau. "Each test and each vaccine is one step closer to getting back to what I call our 'new normal' and our old way of life. That's the only way. Unfortunately, we won't be getting rid of our masks any time soon. It's not over." Dalton Zbierski is a staff writer and can be reached at [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com).

CITY HALL from page 1

a few dollars... if we don't complete it." When the project is completed in its totality, Pouliot believes it will have cost the city approximately \$16 million. He addressed the building's lackluster security, which must be remediated. "One of the things we know is a main concern is that office staff are right at the main entrance that would usually be unlocked. We need to think about creating a secure protocol access for people coming in and out of this building," said Pouliot. From installing an updated key card system to relocating offices upstairs in an area off-limits to the public, multiple avenues to increase security will be explored. Vieau is among the many city employees who work near the building's main entrance. "One of the things that is most important to talk about is making sure that our building meets certain protocols in regards to active shooter safety for our employees," said Vieau. The fourth-story space, currently known as the City Council Chambers, will also be renovated. A movable wall will be installed so that the room can host multiple meetings at once. "Right now, we either have this whole space or the law conference room," said Pouliot. "Often times, they're booked so we're cramming people into offices that are just too small for formal meetings." Pouliot said he's identified a design team prepared to begin on a Phase II design as soon as a contract can be funded. Pouliot said he'll also be in close communication with employees stationed throughout City Hall. "[The process] will go through each department's operations and understand from a design perspective how their space meets their needs or how it doesn't so that can be considered moving forward," said Pouliot. Dalton Zbierski can be reached at [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com).



Anyone with inquiries regarding the City Hall Rehabilitation Project can view this sign, which has been present outside of the building for well over a year. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

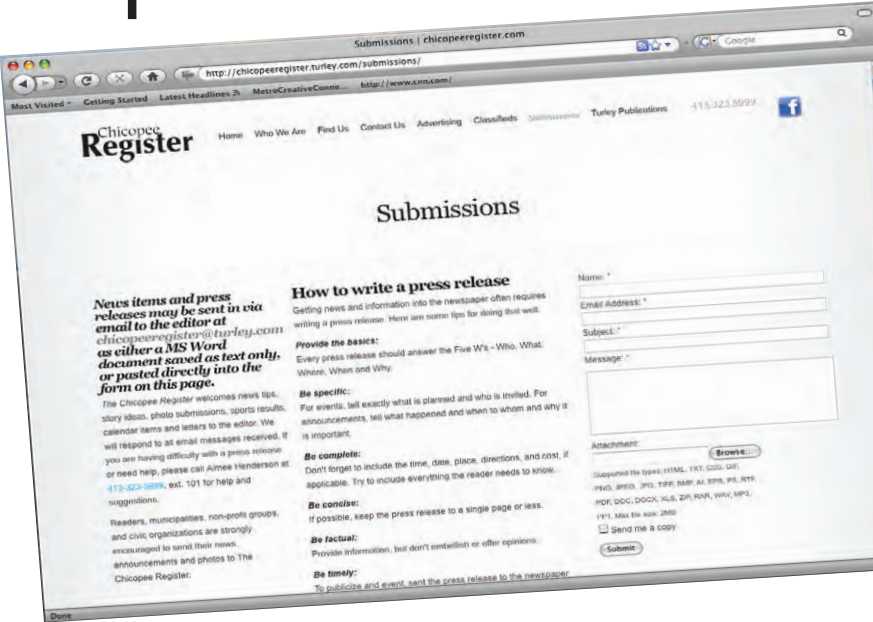
Chicopee students on the UMass Amherst Fall 2020 Dean's List

- AMHERST – Below is a list of Chicopee students who were named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the fall 2020 semester.
- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Lina A Al Sarafi          | Jonathan Edward Lewis        |
| Mohamad Al Sarafi         | Alexandra Christina Lombard  |
| Ahmad Rihab Al Zubaidi    | Adam Konstanty Maciaszek     |
| Aneeza Rafiq Awan         | Melissa Nieves-Torres        |
| Katherine Marie Boutin    | Pratham Raju Patel           |
| Ayumi Castillo            | Vidhi Patel                  |
| Jessica Irene Catalano    | Aaron Charles Pitrat         |
| Ryan Daniel Chretien      | Hannah Rose Provost          |
| Ryan Gabriel Cyr          | Zachary Taylor Rattell       |
| Jessica Nichole Dahlquist | Lucas Rozanski               |
| Celine A Delaronde        | Mason Schelb                 |
| Krista Beth Desrochers    | James Bradley Scott          |
| Roger C DesRochers        | Nolan Stamborski             |
| Seth M Dunlea             | Anthony David Syrek          |
| Evan Andrew Garber        | Burcin Tan                   |
| Tyler Austin Garcia       | Amalia Najeli-Asenath Torres |
| Emma Cecilia Geitz        | Jeick Humberto Vargas-Cabral |
| Niah Gazelle Holtz        | Stephanie Louise Walker      |
| Robert N King             | Jadon White                  |
| Allison Sara Lepine       | Haley Lynn Whitehead         |

Virtual Tang Soo Do Korean martial arts

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Parks & Recreation Department is offering virtual lessons in Tang Soo Do – a Korean martial art. Learn with instructor Master Jeffrey Bulissa, a fourth degree black belt in Tang Soo Do and learn about self-defense, confidence and physical fitness. Classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings virtually in the comfort of your students' own homes. The Classes will run from Feb. 1 – 24. The following classes are being offered: Little Dragons (ages five and six) from 5-5:30 p.m.; Gups (beginners white, orange and green belts, ages seven and up): 5:30-6:30 p.m.; and Gups (advanced brown belts and above, ages seven and up): 6:30-7:30 p.m. Classes require enough space to perform various movements. Costs to participate are \$40 for Little Dragons and \$50 for Gups, both beginner and advanced levels. All Participants will be emailed a link to get into the classes. To register, go to [www.chicopeerec.com](http://www.chicopeerec.com)

Get Your NEWS published!



We've made it more convenient to submit your news to the Chicopee Register. Log on to [www.chicopeerec.com](http://www.chicopeerec.com). You can submit press releases, photos, calendar items, letters to the editor and more! It's quick and easy!! Submissions are accepted via email at [chicopeerec@turley.com](mailto:chicopeerec@turley.com). A TURLEY PUBLICATION [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com) Our online newspaper flipbook is updated weekly too!



## Zoom Tai Chi with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Tai Chi with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. Experience the many slow and gentle benefits of Tai Chi Fit/Qigong.

The class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT, Certified in Tai Chi/Qigong. This is an online class. The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Face-

book, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

## Gentle exercise with Ryan via Zoom

CHICOPEE- The Council on Aging offers “Gentle Exercise with Ryan” Via Zoom, Mondays and Fridays at 12 p.m. This class focuses on function-

al movement & fun. This is an online class. Join Ryan every Monday and Friday at 12 p.m. The Zoom link is shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please

contact RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be emailed to you. Please save the Zoom link as that is the link you will use each class.

## Meditation with Michelle via Zoom

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Meditation with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 12 p.m. Are you feeling stressed? Do you want to learn how to relax? Join us for Meditation on Zoom. This class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT. This is an online class. The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

## Tuesday yoga at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging will be offering Zoom Yoga on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. Caitlin Lavin, Certified Yoga Instructor, will be leading classes. These classes are free and the Zoom links are available on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page or by calling (413) 534-3698.

“Our New Norm  
Never Felt So Warm”



Now Offering Assisted Living,  
Memory Care, & Trial Stays  
At The Arbors



THE Arbors®  
Assisted Living Residential Communities

The Arbors at Chicopee  
929 Memorial Drive  
Chicopee, MA 0102  
413-593-0088

For more information, visit [arborsassistedliving.com](http://arborsassistedliving.com)

PLEASE ASK ABOUT OUR LIMITED AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS  
Call to schedule in person or virtual tour

### INFLUENCER from page 1

ative. Fernando feels he represents residents who don’t think they have a voice in City Hall. And he isn’t afraid to express his opinions.

“Within Chicopee politics, there are a lot of insiders – people who have been in office for years and know how things work and understand how things work,” Fernando said. “It seems like a club that a lot of people aren’t a part of, so sometimes the decisions they make don’t make sense to the ordinary Chicopee resident,” said Fernando, who has clashed with a handful of municipal officials since launching his program.

As his videos draw thousands of views, Fernando hopes that his spirited Facebook critiques of city politics offer residents an alternative perspective. Mainly, he wants city officials to listen.

“If you’re a public servant, you should take every ounce of criticism, even if you don’t consider it to be constructive criticism, and try to understand where that person is coming from,” Fernando said. “I’m bringing to light a lot of things that a lot of people are recognize are wrong with the system. I think just dismissing that is a disservice to the people they represent.”

In December, Fernando publicized Ward 3 City Councilor Lucjan Galecki’s controversial Facebook comments regarding sexual abuse, which many residents and city officials deemed inappropriate.

Despite criticism about some of his opinionated posts, Fernando, a biotechnology and consumer products professional, said he has no regrets. And it seems that for the foreseeable future, he will remain one of Chicopee’s most prominent social media influencers.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at [dzbierski@turley.com](mailto:dzbierski@turley.com).



COURTESY PHOTO

As the host of “Last Week in Chicopee,” a polarizing Facebook program, Kaween Fernando has captured the attention of residents all throughout the city.

## The Optical Shop at Kelly & Velazquez Eye Center

1504 N. Main Street      362 Sewall Street  
Palmer                      Ludlow  
**413-283-3511      413-589-1806**

The Most Advanced Lens Designs

 **Large Selection  
of Frames & Sunglasses  
from Budget to Designer** 

We Provide the Finest Quality at  
Reasonable Prices!

Tim Murphy  
RDO#1334

Jim Phillips  
RDO#4261



# Sports

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

[www.sports.turley.com](http://www.sports.turley.com)

## Buzzer-beater lifts Comp to win

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM — A player must make two consecutive free throws before Chicopee Comp head coach Gavin Miller allows the other members of the boys' varsity basketball team to leave the gymnasium at the end of every practice. The free throw shooting drill paid dividends for the Colts in the first game of the regular season.

With 1.9 seconds remaining in regulation, Comp senior Dennis Popovichenko stepped up to the foul line and sank two free throws giving his team an exciting 47-45 road victory over the Minnechaug Falcons on a snowy night in Wilbraham, last Tuesday (Jan. 26).

"Our practices don't end until a player hits two free throws in a row. I pick a different player every day to make the two shots," Miller said. "I told Dennis during the timeout that if you want to go home, you'll have to make these two free throws and he did. It's a nice way to start our season."

Because of the new COVID-19 rules, no other player from either team was standing in the lane when Popovichenko attempted his first free throw. Two players from each team were standing in the lane for the second free throw attempt.

"I just focused on the basket and blocked everything out around me. Making both of the free throws felt great," said Popovichenko, who scored a team-high 19 points. "They did beat us twice last year, but we knew that we had the talent to beat them in tonight's game."



Luke Theroux tries to drive through the Chaug defense.

The two boys' basketball teams, who are currently members of the Hampden West pool, had competed against each other in the Suburban League during the past couple of years. A year ago, the Falcons defeated the Colts, 71-65, in the first meeting. They also pulled out a 60-55 win in the second meeting.

"We did win two very close games against Comp last year," said Minnechaug head coach Michael Orzech. "You just have to give them a lot of credit be-

cause they outplayed us in tonight's game."

Popovichenko, who made a total of five lay-ups in the season opener, went to the foul line after being fouled on a missed lay-up attempt. He had grabbed an offensive rebound following a missed free throw.

"He probably wouldn't have gotten the offensive rebound if we had boxed out on the previous free throw attempt. It's a frustrating loss," Orzech said. "We just allowed them to dictate the pace of play."



Peyton Batchelor heads up for a basket.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Popovichenko is one of the Colts senior co-captains, along with Mason Cariveau, who also reached double digits with 13 points in the season opener.

"Mason is our floor general this year," Miller said. "His basketball IQ is very high. I'm glad that he and Dennis are our captains this year."

The Colts other two returning varsity players are senior's John Vandal (5 points) and Benjamin Warren (2 points). Soph-

See **COMP BOYS** page 8

## MASCAC cancels 'fall in spring' competition

WESTFIELD — The Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (MASCAC) announced today that the eight MASCAC Presidents made the difficult decision to cancel the fall in spring semester athletic conference competition, including all indoor and outdoor athletic conference competition. The decision ends the possibility of resuming the fall conference competition during the spring of 2021 but will allow fall and winter student-athletes training opportunities. While there will not be a conference schedule for MASCAC fall sports, member institutions will be allowed to schedule fall sport non-conference games at their discretion.

"The MASCAC office has been meeting regularly with the presidents, athletic directors, athletic trainers and other essential staff to consider ways we can bring our student-athletes back to the playing field safely while adhering to all state, federal and NCAA guidelines," said MASCAC Commissioner Angela Baumann. "Regrettably, the highly contagious nature of the COVID-19 virus and the risk of community spread through conference competition proved too great a risk to our student-athletes to engage in conference play. With the health and well-being of our student-athletes and our staff as our priority, the difficult deci-

See **MASCAC** page 8

## Thompson announces 2021 opening weekend events

WATERBURY, Conn. — American-Canadian Tour (ACT) and Pro All Stars Series (PASS) officials have announced the slate of racing for the 46th Thompson Icebreaker on Saturday, April 10 and Sunday April 11. The 82nd season opener at Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park currently consists of a nine-division card highlighted by the \$10,000-to-win Icebreaker 125 for the Thompson Outlaw Open Modified Series.

The event marks the return of the historic season kick-off after a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Icebreaker was first held in 1974 and has become a staple of the Northeast motorsports calendar. It includes two days of racing with an optional Test N' Tune on Friday, April 9.

All five of Thompson Speedway's local divisions join the Outlaw Open Modified Series on the card. This includes



The Icebreaker 125 will kick off Thompson Speedway's race season.

the Sunoco Modifieds, ACT-type Late Models, Limited Sportsmen/8-cylinder Street Stocks, SK Light Modifieds, and Mini Stocks. Laps for each division are to be determined. The purses for these divisions will be similar to those at the Thompson Speedway events ACT and PASS promoted in 2020.

The PASS Super Late Models headline the Saturday

portion of Icebreaker Weekend with a 75-lap event. It is the fifth straight Icebreaker featuring PASS, joining the 2016-2019 editions. PASS holds their first event of the year in the Northeast after opening the season with a pair of events at North Carolina's Hickory Motor Speedway.

The NEMA Lites of the Northeastern Midget Association, who are longtime Thomp-



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The event is part of the Outlaw Open Modified Series

son Speedway supporters, return for another showing at the Icebreaker. The EXIT Realty Pro Truck Challenge rounds out the card. Both series were slated to be part of the 2020 Icebreaker before its cancellation.

Officials are finalizing the full schedule for each day. More information regarding schedules, pricing, and ticketing will be announced over the coming weeks.

"We have something for everyone at the Icebreaker," PASS president Tom Mayberry said. "It's important to start the season with a bang, and we've put together a line-up to do just that. We know a lot of people are looking forward to the Outlaw Open Modified Series debut, but there's plenty of other action

See **RACING** page 8



# Indoor football team signs players for upcoming season

WORCESTER — The Massachusetts Pirates have signed offensive lineman Jared Thomas for the 2021 season.

Thomas (6'3", 300 lbs.) last played college football at Northwestern University. He appeared in 51 total games during his four years on the field, including starting all 14 games at center during his junior and senior seasons. Thomas redshirted as a true freshman at Northwestern in 2015.

Some of Thomas' accomplishments at Northwestern include being named 2019 team captain and 2019 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention.

The Pirates have also signed offensive lineman Dwayne Wallace. Wallace

last played in The Spring League in November 2020. He also played in XFL for the Los Angeles Wildcats in 2020.

Wallace has garnered professional football experience outside of the Pirates. After going undrafted in the 2019 NFL Draft, Wallace had brief stops in the NFL with the Pittsburgh Steelers and Chicago Bears. Wallace took part in rookie mini-camps for both teams in May 2019.

Prior to his professional football career, Wallace played college football at three different schools. First, he enrolled at Riverside City College for his freshman and sophomore seasons. He then transferred to the University of California at Berkeley for his junior year.

In his senior year, he transferred again, this time to the University of Kansas. That season, Wallace started 9 games at right guard. He also started a game at right tackle. Following his college football career, Wallace was a 2019 NFLPA Collegiate Bowl Participant. The Massachusetts Pirates are members of the Indoor Football League (IFL). The Pirates play all home games at the DCU Center located at 50 Foster St. Worcester, MA. 01608. For more information on the Massachusetts Pirates please call (508) 452-MASS (6277), email [contact@masspiratesfootball.com](mailto:contact@masspiratesfootball.com) or visit [www.masspiratesfootball.com](http://www.masspiratesfootball.com)

## Hampshire association seeking umpires

REGION — The Hampshire Franklin Baseball Umpire Association (HFBUA) is planning to conduct classes for the 2021 baseball season following all recommended COVID-19 protocols including the possibility of on-line instruction. The association covers umpiring of scholastic baseball for all of Hampshire and Franklin county schools registered under MIAA and several other baseball leagues in the area. If you are interested in umpiring baseball or obtaining further information regarding the upcoming classes please contact Roger Booth - Secretary/Treasurer of the HFBUA via email at [quiltthunter@comcast.net](mailto:quiltthunter@comcast.net).

### COMP BOYS from page 7

omore Colin Scammon scored four points in his first varsity game.

The leading Minnechaug scorer in the first meeting against Comp was junior captain Matt Devine, who netted 14 of his game-high 20 points in the first half. Devine is also the Falcons only returning starter.

"Matt is a tremendous basketball player and he only wants to help the team win," Orzech said. "I think he'll have a chance to play at the next level in a couple of years. He's an excellent captain for us."

Sophomore Chris Moreno scored seven points for the home team in his first

varsity game. Miller is his AAU basketball coach.

"Chris is a very good young basketball player and he's a good kid," Miller said. "I've been coaching him since he was in the sixth grade."

The first field goal of the new high school basketball season was a made lay-up by Comp junior Peyton Batchelor with 6:40 left in the first quarter. It was Batchelor's only points of the game. A little more than a minute later, back-to-back 3-pointers by Popovichenko and Cariveau pushed the Colts lead to 8-0.

It was the largest lead by either team the rest of the way.

Devine made a 3-pointer from the

left side in the closing seconds of the quarter slicing the Falcons deficit to 12-8.

A jumper in the lane by Devine two minutes into the second quarter gave the Falcons a 14-12 lead for the first time. He also made another 3-pointer, but a reverse lay-up by Popovichenko gave the Colts a 26-20 lead with less than a minute remaining in the first half.

Comp, who led by as many as five points early in the third quarter, entering the final eight minutes of the contest trailing 37-36 following a fast-break lay-up by Moreno before the buzzer sounded.

Early in the final quarter, another Devine 3-pointer gave the Falcons a 43-38

lead.

Then the Colts took a one-point lead (44-43) following a pair of 3-pointers by Popovichenko and Cariveau.

With a minute left on the scoreboard clock, a coast-to-coast lay-up by Minnechaug junior Michael Pelletier (5 points) tied the score at 45-45.

Both teams missed free throw attempts before Popovichenko made a pair from the line just like he and his teammates do at practice.

The Falcons did celebrate a 45-39 road win over Comp, last Saturday afternoon. Devine also scored 20 in that contest, while Popovichenko led the Colts with 16 points.

### MSCAC from page 7

sion was made to cancel the fall in spring MASCAC competition," Baumann said.

Although fall MASCAC competition has been canceled, the state universities will continue to provide student-athletes with on-campus, in-person practices, conditioning, and training opportunities during the spring semester in order to support their physical and mental well-being. These practice and training opportunities will not use a year of NCAA Eligibility and will be done in compliance with campus, state and federal COVID guidance and protocols.

"The MASCAC Presidents know the value of intercollegiate athletics to our campus community and how important sports are to our student-athletes. The news that we need to cancel the fall conference competition is understandably disappointing, but the health and safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance," said Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts President James Birge, Chair of the MASCAC Council of Presidents. "These are unprecedented times and

making the difficult decision to cancel fall conference competition is equally unprecedented. We will continue to monitor the facts and re-evaluate the status of athletics as information and data evolves," said President Birge.

The MASCAC Presidents are hopeful that a spring sports season will occur and plan to announce their decision in February.

"We are disappointed conference competition couldn't be provided for our fall student-athletes in the spring," said MASCAC Commissioner Angela Baumann. "We are still creating plans to play the spring sports season and are hopeful we will be able to provide those student-athletes an athletic experience."

Throughout the 2020-21 academic year, the MASCAC will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with special features, facts and trivia commemorating the event. Our conference has a rich history of success on the playing field and in the classroom. Over the academic year, the conference will be highlighting the student-athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators from the last 50 years.

### RACING from page 7

planned for fans of both open-wheel and full-fender racing."

Entries are already pouring in for the 125-lap Outlaw Open main event. Two of the biggest names on the list are Franklin, MA's Bobby Santos III and Milford, CT's Doug Coby. Santos has posted four career Tour-type Modified victories at Thompson Speedway and six at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. He recently triumphed in the famed Little 500 for Sprint Cars at Indiana's Anderson Speedway. Coby is a six-time champion of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour with six victories at Thompson.

Other notable Modified standouts on the early entry list include former Modified Racing Series and, International Supermodified Association Champion Jon McKennedy, former NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series National Champion Keith Rocco, 2011 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Champion Ronnie Silk,

and Mike Christopher Jr., the winner of the Budweiser Modified Open at last October's World Series of Speedway Racing. They'll be joined by Northeast household names such as Matt Swanson, Eric Goodale, Andy Shaw, Carl Medeiros Jr., and Dan Meservey.

A limited amount of garage stalls are still available for Icebreaker weekend. These will be awarded to Outlaw Open Modified Series competitors in the order their entries are received.

The Icebreaker 125 is the opener of the new Outlaw Open Modified Series. The six-pack of big-money events concludes with the \$20,000-to-win Thompson 300 on October 9 and 10 as part of the 59th World Series of Speedway Racing. In between are four 75-lap events on Wednesday nights throughout the summer that will pay a minimum of \$5,000-to-win. Rules, entry forms, and other information for the Outlaw Open Modified Series is available at [www.acttour.com/outlaw-open-modifieds](http://www.acttour.com/outlaw-open-modifieds) or [www.racedayct.com/thompson2021](http://www.racedayct.com/thompson2021).





## We make it easy to connect with potential customers.

Our weekly newspapers serve 50 local communities and our market specific products have the potential to reach nearly 100,000 readers – driving more local leads than any other source!

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO KEEP UP WITH ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES.**


[TurleyPublications](#)


[turleynews](#)

**12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

Agawam Advertiser News • Barre Gazette • Country Journal • Chicopee Register • Ware River News  
The Journal Register • The Ludlow Register • Quaboag Current • The Sentinel  
The Holyoke Sun • Wilbraham-Hampden Times • Town Reminder



# PUBLIC NOTICES

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Council Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change application from Residential to IPUD-1 for 57.46 acres of property located at 0 Fuller Rd. (Assessor Map 316, Parcel 2 for the purpose of Industrial Park development. Applicant – Westover Metropolitan Development Corp., Michael W. Bolton, 255 Padgett St., Chicopee, MA 01022.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

**\*COVID-19:** Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A due to the novel Coronavirus outbreak, the February 24, 2021 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. As required, alternative public access to this hearing shall be provided in the following manner: The hearing will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Anyone wishing to participate either in person in the Chambers or remotely shall, provide notice to the Office of the City Council by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov) by February 22, 2021. Those giving such notice will need to identify the public hearing and provide their name, address and contact phone number to minimize the potential for zoom bombing of the meeting and if attending in person to be screened as required by the City of Chicopee. The hearing will be available for viewing on the Chicopee TV website Facebook.com/ChicopeeTV and or <https://vimeo.com/chicopeetv>.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>.) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 02/05, 02/12/2021

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee

of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Council Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change application from Business A to Residential B for 8200 SF for property located at 0 Montgomery St. (Parcel ID 0230-00014) for the purpose of constructing a single family home. Applicant – Sergey Savonin / MS Homes, LLC, 21 West School St., West Springfield, MA 01089.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

**\*COVID-19:** Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A due to the novel Coronavirus outbreak, the February 24, 2021 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. As required, alternative public access to this hearing shall be provided in the following manner: The hearing will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Anyone wishing to participate either in person in the Chambers or remotely shall, provide notice to the Office of the City Council by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov) by February 22, 2021. Those giving such notice will need to identify the public hearing and provide their name, address and contact phone number to minimize the potential for zoom bombing of the meeting and if attending in person to be screened as required by the City of Chicopee. The hearing will be available for viewing on the Chicopee TV website Facebook.com/ChicopeeTV and or <https://vimeo.com/chicopeetv>.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>.) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 02/05, 02/12/2021

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Council Chambers, 4th floor,

City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-67G for the purpose of exercising the regulations of the Mill Conversion and Commercial Overlay District in connection with the redevelopment of the below described property and pursuant to Chapter 275-67H of the Ordinance, the Applicant respectfully requests that the City Council waive the following requirements: (1) Requirement that Applicant provide a complete traffic impact study in connection with this application. (2) Requirement that the Applicant provide a special features plan in connection with this application. Location – 10 Southwick St. Applicant – Valley Opportunity Council, Inc., Stephen Huntley, 35 Mt. Carmel Ave., Chicopee, MA 01013.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

**\*COVID-19:** Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A due to the novel Coronavirus outbreak, the February 24, 2021 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. As required, alternative public access to this hearing shall be provided in the following manner: The hearing will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Anyone wishing to participate either in person in the Chambers or remotely shall, provide notice to the Office of the City Council by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov) by February 22, 2021. Those giving such notice will need to identify the public hearing and provide their name, address and contact phone number to minimize the potential for zoom bombing of the meeting and if attending in person to be screened as required by the City of Chicopee. The hearing will be available for viewing on the Chicopee TV website Facebook.com/ChicopeeTV and or <https://vimeo.com/chicopeetv>.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>.) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 02/05, 02/12/2021

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on February 12, 2021 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

1999 Mercedes-Benz E430  
Vin: WDBJF70H5XA808140  
Charles Gill  
12 Water St  
Leeds, MA 01053

2004 Honda Accord  
Vin: 1HGCM56374A022157  
Michael Thomas  
64 Washington Rd  
Brimfield, MA 01010

2005 Honda Odyssey  
Vin: 5FNRL38635B010409  
Carmen Sanchez Quinones  
15 Girard Ave  
Springfield, MA 01109

2006 Jeep Commander  
Vin: 1J8HG58206C139613  
Robert Nelson  
240 Beacon St  
Hartford, CT 06105

2006 Mitsubishi Lancer  
Vin: JA3AJ26E66U001458  
Edward Alvarez  
32 Marquette St  
Springfield, MA 01104

2006 Toyota Corolla  
Vin: 1NXBR32E66Z652384  
Jorge L Blancomelendez  
62 Cross St  
Southbridge, MA 01550

2010 Ford Fusion  
Vin: 3FAHP0HA1AR407909  
Andrea Kane  
3 Hill Place  
West Springfield, MA 01089

2011 Chevrolet Equinox  
Vin: 2CNFLCEC9B6224234  
Erika Saurez  
40 Riverview Homes  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

2014 Nissan Sentra  
Vin: 3N1AB7AP1EY261589  
Willam Ramos  
2250 Sw 69th Ave  
Miami, FL 33101

2016 Ford Fusion  
Vin: 3FA6P0K99GR390355  
Jason Casella  
6 Beekman Pl  
Agawam, MA 01001

2018 Acura TLX  
Vin: 19UUB1F31JA008687  
Hem Pun  
40 Eastern Ave  
Manchester, NH 03104

2018 Kia Optima  
Vin: 5XXGU4L34JG187954  
Jimmy Smith  
289 Iron Mine Rd  
Wallace, NC 28466

01/29, 02/05, 02/15/2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and

Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P0187EA  
Estate of:  
Robert Roland Bolduc  
Also known as:  
Robert R Bolduc,  
Roland Robert Bolduc  
Date of Death: 12/06/2020  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **David M Bolduc** of Ludlow, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **David M Bolduc** of Ludlow, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/10/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

## UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 03, 2021

**Rosemary A Saccomani**

Register of Probate

02/05/2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P0119EA  
Estate of: Stephen Doel  
Also Known As:  
Stephen Russell Doel,  
Stephen R Doel  
Date of Death: 12/13/2020  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Russell J Doel** of Turners Falls, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Russell J Doel** of Turners Falls, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/02/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

## UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 26, 2021

**Rosemary A Saccomani**

Register of Probate

02/05/2021

**Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.**

*Let them know you saw their ad in the*

**Chicopee Register**

## Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

*Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.*

**visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)**



# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

## TAX SERVICES



### CHANTEL BLEAU ACCOUNTING SERVICES

For Full Accounting & Tax Service  
Registered Tax Return Preparer

228 West St., Ware, MA 01082

413-967-8364

The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax preparers go to [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

Call For An  
Appointment

AUTHORIZED  
IRS  
E-FILE  
PROVIDER



588 Center Street  
Ludlow, MA 01056  
www.ajefinancial.com  
(413)589-1671

We are here and ready for the 2020 tax filing season!  
Personal, Business, Corporate and Partnership tax filing.

Please give us a call at the office or  
visit our website for our COVID practices.

### Income Tax Preparation

~ 31 years tax experience ~



Bruce J. Charwick

AUTHORIZED  
IRS  
E-FILE  
PROVIDER

62 Jim Ash Road  
(413) 283-5596 Palmer, MA 01069

### Kitchen Table Taxes

Personal & Small Business Tax Returns  
"David The Tax Man"

AUTHORIZED  
IRS  
E-FILE  
PROVIDER

Tel: 413-289-0058  
Fax: 413-324-2167

Credit Cards Welcome  
kitchentabletaxes@gmail.com

David E. Whitney  
Enrolled Agent

Sixty-Five Jim Ash Road  
Palmer, MA 01069-9814  
www.kitchentabletaxes.com



Call your local Turley Publications  
sales representative for information and  
rates on advertising your tax service here!

413-283-8393 • 1-800-824-6548

### Melchiori Tax and Financial Services

IRS Problems?  
Let a Professional Handle it for you.  
Call us anytime!

Complete Tax Services:

Personal, Business, Corporations and Partnerships

Telephone (413) 786-8727 • Fax (413) 786-1833  
betty@melchioritax.com • pauline@melchioritax.com

24 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030

## FOR SALE

### ANTIQUE AND PERIOD CHAIRS

- Restored with new woven seats -  
Many styles and weaves available. Call  
(413)289-6670

**DISH TV - \$59.99** For 190 Channels  
+ \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free  
installation, Smart HD DVR Included,  
Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions  
apply. Call 1-877-925-7371

## FIREWOOD

**A1 WE STILL HAVE SEASONED  
FIREWOOD** Prompt Delivery and  
Competitive Pricing. Call now S & K  
413-267-3100

**AA !!!SEASONED FIREWOOD!!!**  
Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split,  
Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood  
(413)348-4326.

### FIREWOOD

Fresh cut & split \$160.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$200.00

All hardwood.

Tree length available

\*Also have seasoned softwood for  
outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & vol-  
umes **guaranteed!!** New England  
Forest Products (413)477-0083

**SEASONED OAK & Hardwood.**  
Cut, split and delivered. 413-575-  
4243.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**A PLACE FOR MOM.** The nation's  
largest senior living referral service.  
Contact our trusted, local experts to-  
day! Our service is FREE/no obliga-  
tion. CALL 1-855-799-4127

**DEALING WITH WATER DAM-  
AGE** requires immediate action. Local  
professionals that respond immedi-  
ately. Nationwide and 24/7. No Mold Calls.  
1-800-506-3367

## FOR SALE

**DO YOU HAVE** chronic knee or  
back pain? If you have insurance, you  
may qualify for the perfect brace at  
little to no cost. Get yours today! Call  
1-800-217-0504

**INVENTORS - FREE INFOR-  
MATION PACKAGE** Have your  
product idea developed affordably by  
the Research & Development pros  
and presented to manufacturers. Call  
855-380-5976 for a free idea start-  
er guide. Submit your idea for a free  
consultation.

**LIFE ALERT. 24/7.** One press of  
a button sends help FAST! Medical,  
Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach  
a phone! FREE brochure. CALL 800-  
457-1917

**MOBILEHELP, AMERICA'S PRE-  
MIER MOBILE MEDICAL ALERT  
SYSTEM.** Whether you're Home or  
Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind.  
No Long Term Contracts! Free Bro-  
chure! Call Today! 1-844-892-1017

**OXYGEN-ANYTIME. ANY-  
WHERE.** No tanks to refill. No deliv-  
eries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved!  
FREE info kit: Call 1-855-917-4693

**PROMOTE YOUR PRODUCT,** ser-  
vice or business to 1.7 million house-  
holds throughout New England. Reach  
4 million potential readers quickly and  
inexpensively with great results. Use  
the Buy New England Classified Ad  
Network by calling (413)283-8393,  
classifieds@turley.com. Do they work?  
You are reading one of our ads now!!  
Visit our website to see where your  
ads run [communitypapersne.com](https://communitypapersne.com)

**STAY IN YOUR HOME** longer with  
an American Standard Walk-In Bath-  
tub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including  
a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty  
on the tub and installation! Call us at  
1-866-945-3783.

**STOP STRUGGLING ON THE  
STAIRS.** Give your life a lift with an  
ACORN STAIRLIFT! Call now for  
\$250. OFF your stairlift purchase and  
FREE DVD & brochure! 1-844-325-  
8610

## SERVICES



A B Hauling and  
Removal Service

### 2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\*

Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard  
debris. Barns, sheds, demolished.  
Swimming pools removed. Cheap-  
er than dumpster fees and we do all  
the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured.  
(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-  
8868.



### 2\*\*\*\*\*A CALL WE HAUL WE TAKE IT ALL WE LOAD IT ALL

Lowest Rates,  
accumulations, junk, estates,  
attics, garages, appliances,  
basements, demo services.  
10% disc. with this ad of services.  
Dumpster Rentals available for rent.

All Major CC's  
CALL NOW (413)531-1936  
acallwehaul@gmail.com

### ATTN. LANDLORDS: B & D PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Since 1982, Insured, References,  
HIC#175887  
Carpentry, Painting, Roofing, Apart-  
ment Turnovers, Cleanups, Lawn  
Care, Fall Cleanup, Snow Removal,  
more. (413) 455-5458

**BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.**  
Established 1976. New re-roofs and  
repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs.  
Licensed/ insured. Call (413)967-  
6679

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH  
REMOVAL** attics, cellars, garag-  
es cleaned. Light moving. Gutters  
Cleaned. Family owned/ operated  
since 1950 (413)537-5090

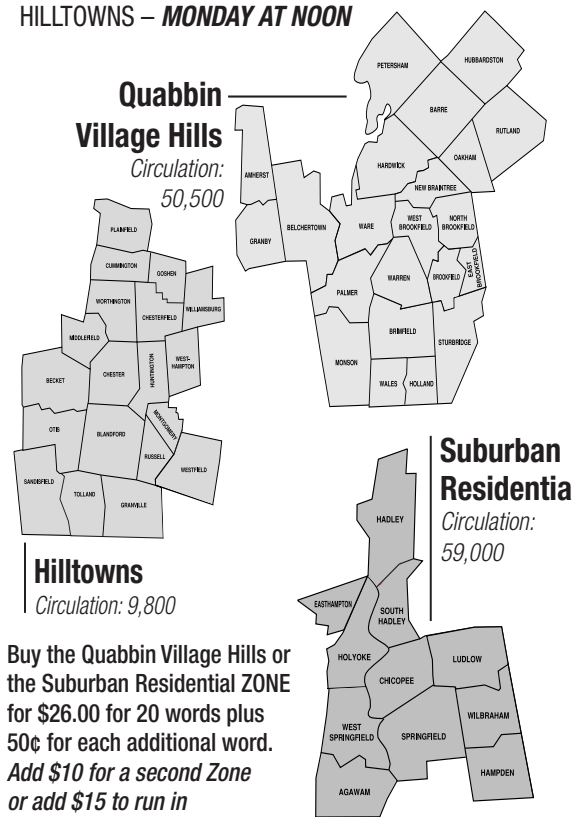
## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN - FRIDAY AT NOON  
HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$26.50
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or  
the Suburban Residential ZONE  
for \$26.00 for 20 words plus  
50¢ for each additional word.  
Add \$10 for a second Zone  
or add \$15 to run in  
ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price \_\_\_\_\_ Includes additional words  
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**  
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**  
Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
x Number of Weeks \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):  
☐ Quabbin  
☐ Suburban  
☐ Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!



Nancy D. Mirkin joins Polish National Credit Union as VP, Commercial Lending

CHICOPEE – Nancy D. Mirkin of Longmeadow has joined the Polish National Credit Union as Vice President of Commercial Lending. Mirkin, a Western Massachusetts native, has her Master’s in Business Administration from Western New England College as well as a Bachelor’s of Art in economics from the University of Massachusetts. She has been in the banking industry for 38 years and brings with her an impressive history of commercial lending knowledge and experience. Her areas of expertise include business networking, relationship management, financial analysis, problem solving and communication.

Mirkin is a proud member of the Western Massachusetts community, which is reflected in current community involvement. She is a founding member of Credit for Life Financial Literacy; a life-long member of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, where she is a legislative committee member; Mental Health Association, where she is a board member and finance Committee member. Nancy has won the Florence Bank Community Support Award; the March of the Dimes Charitable Leadership Award; and the Professional Women’s Chamber of the Affiliated Chambers of Commerce for Greater Springfield’s Woman of the Year Award.

“PNCU is excited to welcome Nancy to the team. Without being said, she has a remarkable resume, but her involvement with the community stands unmatched,” said James P. Kelly, president and CEO of the Polish National Credit Union. “It is clear that with her dedication and hard work she will excel with members and expand our presences in the Pioneer Valley.” Headquartered in Chicopee, Polish National Credit Union is a full-service credit union with a full suite of consumer and business products. The Credit Union has eight branches located in Chicopee, Granby, Westfield, Southampton, Hampden and Wilbraham.

S	R	B	M			H	E	R		C	S	C	H
P	I	L	A	F		A	C	E		H	A	L	E
C	A	U	S	E	S	G	O	N		A	F	A	R
C	L	E	A	V	E	A	T	E		P	A	D	S
				E	V	E	R	Y	W	H	E	R	E
C	A	T	E	R	E	R		P	A	U	L	I	
A	M	B	L	I	N	G		E	L	M			
B	A	A	L	S						A	J	U	G
					H	R	S		S	E	N	A	T
			S	A	L	A	L		B	R	I	G	A
	P	O	L	Y	V	A	L	E	N	T			
C	R	A	B		A	V	E		E	I	G	H	T
H	A	K	A		G	E	M		S	E	E	S	A
A	T	E	N		E	R	A		S	E	I	N	E
T	O	D	Y		D	Y	N			S	A	K	I

Have Something to Share?  
Send your stories and photos to elinscott@turley.com

**NOTICE**

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

Our advertisers make this publication possible.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

**Chicopee Register**

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE Call us at 413.283.8393

SERVICES

CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & re-finishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

DRYWALL AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

PAINT AND PAPER Over 25 years experience. References. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin 978-355-6864.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

BD GENERAL SERVICES Carpenter, windows, doors, roofs, gutters, floors, quality painting. Insured. References. Free Estimates. MA HIC#175887. In business 30+ yrs. 413-455-5458

CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION Kitchen, bath, foyers. References. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin (978)355-6864.

DELREO HOME IMPROVEMENT for all your exterior home improvement needs. ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS & GUTTERS. Extensive references available. Fully Licensed & Insured in MA. & CT. Call GARY DELCAMP @ 413-569-3733

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

SERVICES

ELECTRICIAN

CHAMPAGNE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS Service changes/upgrades, generators, phone/data wiring, smoke detectors. Insured. Credit cards accepted. License #22882A (413) 210-9140

DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN, FRIENDLY service, installs deicing cables. Free estimates. Fully insured. Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B Call (413)244-7096.

SERVICES

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE Excavator Services Overgrown property? Extreme Brush Cutting! Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal Lawn/Arborvite Installed Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand Storm Clean-up Maintenance Small Demolition/ Junk Removal/ Clean-outs Insured Josh 413-636-5957

PLUMBING

GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

LINC'S PLUMBING LIC. #J27222 "New Season" "New Projects" Call LINC'S For Your Connection (413)668-5299

SERVICES

TREE WORK

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

AUTO

CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!! All Makes/ Models 2000-2019! Any Condition, Running or Not. Top \$\$\$ Paid! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: 1-888-513-1505.

PETS

RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION SPAYED/NEUTERED, WORMED, SHOTS, HEARTWORM TESTED, TEETH CLEANED

MAKE A FAST FRIEND!

GREYHOUND OPTIONS INC. CALL MARY AT 413-566-3129 OR CLAIRE AT 413-967-9088 OR GO TO WWW.GREYHOUND OPTIONS.ORG

HELP WANTED

DEVEREUX is looking for individuals who are interested in becoming foster parents. We are looking for individuals who are caring and would be able to provide a stable and caring home for youth who have experienced abuse or neglect in their lives. Devereux provides free training and ongoing staff support. For more information call Maureen at (413)209-7677 mbennet9@devereux.org or Janet at (508)713-3895 jknapp@devereux.org

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

REAL ESTATE

VACATION RENTALS

WARM WEATHER IS Year Round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



- Check Out Our For Sale, Services, Pets and Other Classifieds
- Real Estate: For Sale, For Rent & Vacation Rentals
- Help Wanted: Part Time & Full Time Career Opportunities

Call to place your classified ad: **413-283-8393**

the best around

CLASSIFIEDS

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Reaching readers in 50 local communities every week.



Chicopee Register February 5, 2021 | Page 11



# 'Complete collapse' of internal structures blamed for Soldiers' Home deadly outbreak

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The fifth legislative hearing pertaining to the Soldiers' Home outbreak occurred on Jan. 21, when Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders listed several of the measures being taken to ensure that such an event never reoccurs.

After at least 76 veterans residing in the facility died of COVID-19 last spring, the state aspires to return the site to its former glory. But the unprecedented tragedy was the result of several issues.

First, Sudders identified several rampant problems that were observed under the home's former leadership, which contributed to the removal and arraignment of former superintendent Bennett Walsh.

"There were not the internal processes, clinical management and operations to withstand a pandemic," Sudders said. "There are many nursing homes in Massachusetts that faced the pandemic, including [the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea], but their internal structures didn't collapse. What happened at Holyoke, from my read of everything, was a complete collapse because it didn't exist. Staff were left on their own to come up with responses."

More than 80 Soldiers' Home staff were sickened during the early stages of the pandemic as the novel coronavirus overran the facility.

Sudders said the widespread use of mandatory overtime and unpredictable staffing schedules at the facility had long been troublesome. Prior to the pandemic's arrival, Sudders ordered a staffing study at the home.

"I was, frankly, stunned that there had never been a permanent staffing schedule at the home – that's, like, a basic. Staff should not have to figure out week to week what their schedules are going to be," Sudders said. "There was an overuse of overtime. When I say that, it's either some people using a lot of overtime to fill gaps in staffing structures, or positions



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

The Soldiers' Home in Holyoke had long been one of the region's finest facilities. A COVID-19 outbreak last year may have irrevocably damaged the institution's reputation.

are not aligned in a way where you have a permanent staffing structure."

Employees would often call out simply because they'd failed to receive their schedules in a timely manner and couldn't reschedule personal commitments. Moving forward, time off requests will be posted in three-month blocks.

The lack of structure led directly to a high turnover rate among staff, who had not received proper training or development. Sudders noted that changes have been implemented over the past 10 months.

"The home did not have a strong internal nursing [and] ongoing development program," Sudders said. "That has been one of the reforms that we have in place. If you hire staff and don't then make sure they have the skills to do the job, you're going to have high turnover."

While Sudders said the facility had an adequate number of full-time employees registered at the onset of the pandem-

ic, they were "not properly aligned" in order to make the best use out of staffing capacity.

Under new leadership, the home has adopted a permanent clinical staffing structure. To keep employees accountable, the facility is being held to the gold-star standard created by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid.

"I believe that the Holyoke Soldiers' Home should be CMS certified. That's always been my position – that we should lean towards that for many reasons, including the fact that there's really no reason why it should not be," Sudders said.

Sudders doesn't believe it's appropriate for the board of trustees to create policies and procedures. Rather, she believes the board should review policies and procedures only after they've been written by management at the home, she said.

The state now requires that the home be inspected annually by the Department of Public Health. Infection control pol-



Over the past five months, a series of hearings before a legislative oversight committee have explored what led to the COVID-19 outbreak in the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke that led to the deaths of at least 76 veterans.

icies and procedures have also been updated.

An October DPH study found that the facility is now clean, staff are knowledgeable and well-trained on the use of PPE and infection control policies, and the operation is largely compliant with the CMS survey.

"That is very important because it gives transparency and confidence going forward," Sudders said. "I do think those kinds of public inspections are important. I think that we are on a good path of reform. I think clarifying the government structure for the home is very important."

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

**BUY DIRECT AND SAVE \$\$\$**

USDA INSP. FRESH  
**PORK BUTTS**.....**\$1.47**  
GREAT FOR PULLED PORK **lb**

USDA INSP. FRESH  
**ASSORTED PORK CHOPS**.....**\$1.55**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. FRESH  
**PORK COUNTRY STYLE RIBS**.....**\$1.47**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. FROZEN  
**BABY BACK RIBS**.....**\$3.69**  
**lb**

USDA INSP.  
**SMOKED 1/2 HAMS**.....**99¢**  
BUTT OR SHANK PORTIONS **lb**

USDA INSP. STORE MADE  
**ITALIAN SAUSAGE**.....**\$1.99**  
ALL VARIETIES FAMILY PAK **lb**

**BIG GAME SPECIALS**  
USDA INSP. STORE MADE ITALIAN MARINATED  
**BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST**.....**\$2.29**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. STORE MADE TEXAS BBQ MARINATED  
**BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS**.....**\$2.29**  
**ea**

USDA INSP. FROZEN  
**1/2 SPIRAL HAM**.....**\$1.69**  
**lb**

**CUSTOMER PICK OF THE WEEK**

USDA INSP. FRESH  
**BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST** 10 LB BAG ....**\$1.29**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. FROZEN IQF  
**PARTY CUT CHICKEN WINGS** 4 LB BAG.....**\$8.99**  
**ea**

USDA INSP. FRESH  
**CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS** 10 LB BAG .....**66¢**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. FROZEN  
**TURKEY BREAST** HOTEL STYLE .....**\$1.29**  
**lb**

INSPI. FRESH HILLSHIRE FARM  
**KIELBASA POLSKA** 13 OZ OR 14 OZ .....**\$3.49**  
**ea**

INSPI. IQF FROZEN  
**JUMBO RAW SHRIMP EASY PEEL** 13/15 CT 2 LB BAG..**\$17.99**  
**ea**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS  
**BEEF TENDERLOIN**  
CUT FREE **\$6.67**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN  
**BEEF SHANKS**  
**\$2.99**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN  
**BEEF STRIPOIN STEAKS**  
**\$4.77**  
**lb**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS  
**80% LEAN GROUND BEEF**  
**\$2.79** 7 LB BAG  
**lb**

**90 Meat Outlet**

**HOURS:** Mon. - Wed. 8-4  
Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

**BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE**

90 Avocado St.  
Springfield  
**413-737-1288**  
**www.90meat.com**

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

**IN A FLASH**  
Digital & Photographic Lab Services

**February Special**  
**HOME MOVIE/ VIDEO TRANSFER SALE**  
We Still  
• Develop Film • Print From Negatives  
• Print From Digital Photos  
• Restore Photos • Passport Photos  
• Custom Frame And Sell Film

**Home Movie/Video Transfer Sale**  
**10% OFF**  
Entire Order

**PLEASE PRESENT THIS COUPON WHEN PLACING ORDER.**  
CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER DISCOUNTS. EXPIRES 2/28/21.

**Visit us in our new location!**  
**481A Breckwood Blvd., Springfield, MA**  
**(413) 782-0868 • www.IAFlashPhoto.com**

Page 12 | February 5, 2021

Chicopee Register